

Appl. No.10/642,716
Amendment July 20, 2005
Reply to Office action of April 22, 2005

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A folding panel assembly, comprising:
only vertically-oriented frames, wherein first and second vertically-oriented frames are disposed on separate spaced apart partitions, the frames being stationary relative to the partitions and defining an opening; and
a plurality of folding panels, wherein a first panel is mounted to the first vertically-oriented frame and each successive panel is supported solely by its preceding panel;
the folding panel assembly having an absence of any elements that would unite the folding panels to horizontal members that would span above and/or below the opening;
wherein, when the panels are folded together at the first frame, access is allowed through the opening, and when the panels are unfolded to extend across the opening to the second frame, access through the opening is blocked.

2. (Original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the furthest extended panel of the plurality of folding panels is capable of being connected to the second frame when the panels are unfolded across the opening.

3. (Canceled)

4. (Original) The assembly of claim 1, further comprising a decorative or descriptive panel removably attached to the folding panels for changing an appearance of the panels.

5. (Original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the panels comprise a computer controlled display.

6. (Original) The assembly of claim 1, wherein the panels are opaque, translucent, or transparent.

7. (Currently amended) A folding panel assembly, comprising:
only vertically-oriented frames, wherein first and second vertically-oriented frames are disposed on separate spaced apart partitions, the frames defining an opening;

a first plurality of folding panels having a first panel supported by the first frame and each successive panel is supported solely by its preceding panel; and

a second plurality of folding panels having a first panel supported by the second frame and each successive panel is supported solely by its preceding panel;

the folding panel assembly having an absence of any elements that would unite the folding panels to horizontal members that would span above and/or below the opening;

wherein, when the first and second plurality of panels are folded together at the frames, access is allowed through the opening, and when the first and second plurality of panels are unfolded to extend across the opening, each panel having a furthest extended panel coming together, access through the opening is blocked.

8. (Original) The assembly of claim 7, wherein the folding panels are capable of being locked together when the panels are unfolded across the opening.

9. (Original) The assembly of claim 7, further comprising a first and second locking bars that allow the respective folding panels to stay unfolded.

10. (Original) The assembly of claim 7, further comprising decorative or descriptive panels removably attached to the panels for changing an appearance of the panels.
11. (Original) The assembly of claim 7, wherein the panels comprise a computer controlled display.
12. (Original) The assembly of claim 7, wherein the panels are opaque, translucent, or transparent.
13. (Original) The assembly of claim 7, further comprising at least one hinge disposed between each of the frames and its respective first panel to support and pivotally mount its respective plurality of folding panels.
14. (Previously presented) The assembly of claim 13, wherein the hinge includes a spring.